

newspaper

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Placing secret intelligence gathering under the rule of law

Register now for lecture and debate on 27 June at King's College, London

Coming up later this month there is a unique opportunity to hear from former GCHQ Director and Home Office Permanent Secretary, Professor Sir David Omand GCB. In collaboration with the NUJ's PR & Communications branch, Sir David will deliver a lecture and take part in a debate on Monday 27 June at King's College, London. If you would like to attend, please register beforehand via Eventbrite. (The link in box). In his lecture, "How Safe Are Your Communications? Placing Secret Intelligence Gathering Under the Rule of Law", Sir David will review the progress of the Investigatory Powers Bill. He will discuss its historical significance in placing

intrusive intelligence gathering under legal safeguards. This is an exciting opportunity to hear from Sir David, whose significant public sector experience put him at the heart of the intelligence and security sectors. The NUJ General Secretary Michelle Stanistreet will also be on the podium, at the event and after Sir David's talk, there will be a Q&A session.

Sir David is now a Professor in the War Studies Department at King's College, London and at Sciences-Po in Paris. In 2002 he was appointed as the first UK Security and Intelligence Co-ordinator. This meant he was responsible to the Prime Minister for the professional health of the intelligence community,

national counter-terrorism strategy and 'Homeland Security'. Previously, at the Ministry of Defence, he was Deputy Under Secretary of State for Policy. His book, 'Securing the State', was published in paperback by Hurst in 2011 and is now available as a Kindle download.



Lecture Details

Date: **Monday 27 June**
Time: **6pm to 8pm**
Place: **Room K6.07**
King's College, University of London, Strand Campus, Strand, London WC2R 2LS.
Cost: **Free Register to attend:**
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nuj-pr-communications-branch-lecture-by-professor-sir-david-omand-tickets-25714454626>



GET INVOLVED

The NUJ's councils and committees offer opportunities for members to get active and get involved with the union. Among the current vacancies are 3 on the public relations (PR) and communications industrial council which has a seat available for an equality representative, a member from the North

West of England and a member from London and the South East of England.

There are also seats for a PR and communications member (and a broadcasting member) on the health and safety committee, as well as one vacancy on the NUJ's appeals tribunal

The committees form the basis of the union's democratic decision-making structures and membership is open to all members, depending on their sector or membership category, with some roles available as a job-share. For further information, contact elections@nuj.org.uk. The deadline for nominations is 22 July.

Anniversary

Branches and chapels are being encouraged to organise events to raise money for the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) safety fund. This year (26 June) marks the 20th anniversary of the death of journalist and NUJ Irish member Veronica Guerin, so members are being asked and to remember Veronica by showing the film about her life and work.

Donations to the fund can be made via the IFJ safety website.



Branch meetings are on second Tuesday of the month.

Branch committee 2016

At the AGM in January your new branch committee was elected. The post holders for 2016 are as follows:

Chair: Debbie Cavaldoro

Vice-Chair: Monica Foot / Mick Holder (job share)

Branch Secretary: Mark Whitehead

Assistant Secretary: Sian Jones

Equality Officer: Carmel McHenry

Treasurer: Carmel McHenry

Welfare Officer: Debbie Cavaldoro

Newsletter Editor: Lisa Browne

DM convener: Debbie Cavaldoro

Recruitment and Retention: Mark Whitehead

Web: Mick Holder

E-Mail

Please help build branch database by sending your e-mail address to: nujpr@googlemail.com

Auditors: Anita Halpin, Charles Harkness and/or Eddie Barret (tbc)

Thanks were given to the outgoing committee members for their work during 2015.

Don't forget!

Let the NUJ have your e-mail address so we can save on postage by e-mailing you the branch newsletter.

@NUJ_PRmembers on Twitter

We are on Twitter!, Follow us on @NUJ_PRmembers for updates on all things NUJ and PR.

Trade union support

Members of the PR and Communications branch offer a range of support to other trade unionists, either as individuals or, for example, via the affiliated Waltham Forest Trades Council which marked Worker's Memorial Day in April. The motto for the day was 'Remember the dead – Fight for the living' and council members marked the day by commemorating the anniversary of the death of Marian Nemit who died from injuries he sustained while working on a shop refit in Leyton, London.

Other recent examples of support include working with the Blacklist Support Group campaign in response to the publication of the Consulting Association's 'blacklist' and supporting junior doctors during their industrial action.



Waltham Forest Trades Council members mark Worker's Memorial Day



Stress @ work

Excessive and long-term stress, if not managed properly, can often lead to problems both in and out of work. When it comes to health and safety matters, the NUJ has provided advice and factsheets on the website on a number of issues including stress. More information can be found at <https://www.nuj.org.uk/rights/health-and-safety/stress-and-mental-health/>. The union has also produced a video as part of its ongoing support of its members. Search YouTube for Campaigns NUJ 'stress in the workplace', or use the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YNGpjUxxXrA&feature=youtu.be>

